

ILLNESS POLICIES & PROCEDURES

ILLNESS

Keeping your child healthy is very important to us. For this reason we must exclude children with contagious or infectious conditions. Each child will be checked upon arrival for illness and will be sent home if they show any symptoms. When your child becomes ill or is unable to participate in group activities, you will be asked to remove your child from the school within one hour. A child who becomes sick at school will be sent to our “sick room” located near the Front Lobby.

Children who have been sent home from school may not return to school on the subsequent day. Children must be symptom free for a minimum of 36 hours from the time they are picked up from school, before they may return.

Often the most contagious state of a child’s illness is just before symptoms appear. Signals such as change in behavior, pulling at ears, drowsiness, loss of appetite, or inability to participate in room activities, might indicate your child is at the beginning stage of illness. Your child needs lots of cuddling and comforting during any illness. Staying home and getting extra rest may ward off the illness, and will also help prevent spreading it to other children in the school.

The criteria used to determine when a child needs to be excluded from the school is based on State and County regulations as well as the guidelines set by the American Public Health Association, American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control.

Children have not fully developed their immunity to diseases, so they are ill more often than most adults. Often this happens just when you are most needed at work. The school will not be able to provide care for your child according to previously mentioned regulations. Therefore, it is very important that each parent make alternate arrangements for back-up care.

THESE ARE THE HEALTH REASONS CHILDREN ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE SCHOOL:

- The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in the school’s activities. This includes being able to play outside, since outside play is a normal part of the daily program.
- The illness results in a greater care than the teachers can provide without compromising the health and safety of the other children.
- Oral temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or above in the past 24 hours.
- Vomiting in the past 24 hours.
- Uncontrolled diarrhea (2 or more loose bowel movements within a 24 hours period).
- Symptoms and signs that could indicate a severe illness. Your child will be excluded until symptoms disappear or a doctor authorizes a written permission for return to school. Some examples would be:

Unusual Lethargy	Uncontrolled Coughing
Irritability or Persistent Crying	Difficult Breathing/Wheezing
Stiff Neck or Headache with Fever	Jaundice (yellow skin or eyes)
Sore Throat	Mouth Sores with Drooling
Pink or Red Eyes accompanied by White or Yellow Eye Discharge	
Undiagnosed Rash, especially when accompanied by fever or behavior change	

- Examples of communicable diseases that are excluded throughout the period of communicability:

Chicken Pox	Mumps	Influenza	Rubella Roseola – Measles
Fifth’s Disease	Meningitis	Shingles	
Colds with fever	Coxsackie		
- Examples of diseases that are excluded until appropriate treatment has been completed (a doctor’s authorization may be required for readmission):

Draining Sores or Wounds	Lice	Scabies	Impetigo
Ringworm	Tuberculosis	Herpes	Giardia
Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)	Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	Hepatitis A or B	
Strep Throat			